

1-1 By: Jones (Senate Sponsor - Carona) H.C.R. No. 125
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 16, 2003;
1-3 May 19, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 and Human Services; May 23, 2003, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 23, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, A recent survey of state agencies by the Texas
1-8 Department on Aging (TDoA) found that more than 50 agencies provide
1-9 services that directly address quality of life or independence for
1-10 older Texans; and

1-11 WHEREAS, Survey results also indicate that only 45 percent of
1-12 older Texans know where to get information about these services,
1-13 including housing, transportation, long-term care, and assistance
1-14 and support; and

1-15 WHEREAS, Older Texans are one of the fastest-growing
1-16 population groups served by the state, making it increasingly
1-17 important to ensure that services and programs for them are easily
1-18 accessible and coordinated; and

1-19 WHEREAS, State agencies recognize the need to cooperate with
1-20 each other to maximize resources and expertise, increase the
1-21 efficiency of existing systems and personnel, and eliminate
1-22 duplication of effort; and

1-23 WHEREAS, An example of direct interagency collaboration, the
1-24 Texas Information and Referral Network provides health and human
1-25 services information via the Internet, area information centers,
1-26 and a 2-1-1 telephone number; and

1-27 WHEREAS, An information and referral system for older Texans
1-28 would build on this effort, offering information and resources in a
1-29 clear and easy-to-use format, regardless of a client's access to
1-30 the Internet; and

1-31 WHEREAS, TDoA is a leader in promoting a full range of
1-32 services and opportunities that allow older Texans to live healthy,
1-33 dignified, and independent lives; now, therefore, be it

1-34 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-35 hereby direct the Texas Department on Aging to lead a partnership of
1-36 state agencies in support of a web-, print-, and phone-based
1-37 information, assistance, and referral system for older Texans; and,
1-38 be it further

1-39 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislature hereby direct the Texas
1-40 Department on Aging to create a central information hub that
1-41 provides greater transparency and ease of use for customers,
1-42 assures direct interagency collaboration to improve efficiency and
1-43 expertise, and complements development of the Texas Information and
1-44 Referral Network; and, be it further

1-45 RESOLVED, That the Texas Department on Aging submit an annual
1-46 report to the Texas Legislature detailing progress in achieving the
1-47 goals of this resolution; and, be it further

1-48 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward an official
1-49 copy of this resolution to the executive director of the Texas
1-50 Department on Aging.

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